THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The annual GDP growth rates (at Constant 1993-94 prices) during each year of the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) are:

Year	Rate of Growth of GDP (%)
1997-1998	4.8
1998-1999	6.5
1999-2000	6.1
2000-2001	4.0
2001-2002	5.4

According to the Advanced Estimates of National Income, 2001-02 released by the Central Statistical Organisation, the GDP at factor cost was Rs. 1258808 crore in 2001-02 (at constant 1993-94 prices).

Corporation Check Gates In Tax Collection

5372. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether law provides for free and unhindered passage of vehicles both commercial and private along the National Highways;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that Guwahati Municipal Corporation is in the process of finalising tender bids for collection of entry tax at four check gates located within a distance of 13 km. on the National Highway 37; and

(c) whether this reported move is in violation of Article 265 of the Constitution of India if so, what action Government plan to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) The law provides for regulation of traffic along the roads including National Highways as per the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 for the safety and convenience of the public.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) On a reference from this Ministry, the Government of Assam has informed that their Municipal Administration Department have decided to remove all illegal check gates on National Highways in Assam.

Conversion of Dhodar Ali Road line a National Highway

5373. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for conversion of Dhodar Ali Road into national highway for the development of commerce and improvement of communication in Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh as the said road is one of the most important connecting roads of the region; and

(b) if so, whether Government proposed to include it into the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) proposal for conversion of Dhodar Ali Road into a National Highway has been received.

(b) The proposal would be considered alongwith similar proposals received from various States after finalization of 10th Five Year Plan and availability of funds, keeping in view the revised criteria for declaration of Highways, traffic needs and *inter-se* priority.

CNG Conversion Kits in Auto Rickshaws

5374. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CNG conversion kit is not successful on two strokes engines of auto rickshaws;

(b) whether Government have conducted any study before asking for conversion from Petrol to CNG of these auto rickshaws;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the money spend by them on kits has no value; and

(d) what steps Government have taken in this regard?